

11JUL2011

Reverend Rick Lindsay, Founder and President
Encourage Men to Pray Ministries, Inc.
P.O. Box 291, Goose Creek, SC 29445

Marlene Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW, Washington, DC 20554

Dear Ms. Dortch:

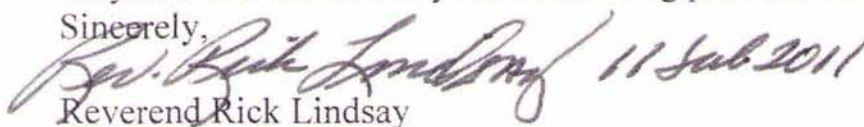
My name is Reverend Rick Lindsay. I am the founder of Encourage Men to Pray Ministries, Inc. (EMPT), a faith based ministry and non-profit organization based in Goose Creek, South Carolina. I am writing to you today because I have learned that Congress and the Federal Communications Commission are contemplating new rules that will do away with free conferencing services. This action will have an immediate dramatic negative effect on thousands of people across the United States who rely on ministries such as ours to overcome their struggles.

Today, as the economy continues to struggle, every day I see more and more men reach out to our ministry to pray. These men know EMPT provides fellowship through prayer and that it is as easy to access as dialing a phone. Today, approximately, 300-500 men seek out our ministry every day to seek the peace and hope only prayer can provide. During your rulemaking process, I respectfully ask you to consider these thousands of people across the country who have found their way to prayer and depend on the existence of free conferencing services to worship.

As a pastor for many years, I have witnessed technology change and, consequently, the power of prayer expanded from people in their community gathering in churches to thousands of people across the country connecting over the phone line. EMPT helps connect leaders in churches with each other, with incredible teachers, and with great resources all designed to help uplift people as they struggle through prayer. Our ministry strives to empower people to meet together over the telephone by offering free teleconferencing services to churches, ministries and other non-profit organizations. We strive to reach as many people as possible. If free conferencing services were to be eliminated, our mission would be at risk.

As you move forward in your rulemaking process, I hope you find this information helpful.

Sincerely,

 11 Jul 2011
Reverend Rick Lindsay

cc: Chairman Julius Genachowski
Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Commissioner Robert M. McDowell
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn